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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 03043 211445Z

47
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 /069 W
---------- 129161
R 211209Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 988

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 3043

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, TH
SUBJ: RTG FORCES CLASH WITH CT IN THOENG DISTRICT CHIANG RAI PROVINCE

1. COMBINED FORCE OF RTA THIRD ARMY ELEMENTS AND BORDER PATROL POLICE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN SWEEPING OPERATION FOR PAST WEEK AGAINST CT FORCES IN THOENG DISTRICT, CHIANG RAI PROVINCE. RTG ELEMENTS HAVE ENCOUNTERED SIZEABLE CT GROUP IN AREA LONG INFESTED WITH CT AND WHERE KNOWN CT BASE CAMPS LOCATED. LATEST REPORTS LIST NINE RTA KIA WITH THIRTY TO FORTY WIA.

2. BANGKOK NEWSPAPER REPORTS HAVE QUOTED SENIOR THAI MILITARY AND POLICE OFFICIALS AS CLAIMING THAT 200-300 "FOREIGN TROOPS" HAD MOVED IN FROM LAOS TO REINFORCE CT. EMBASSY OFFICER LEARNED FROM GENERAL SAIYUT KOETPHON OF ISOC ON FEBRUARY 20 THAT RTG FORCES WERE ON NORMAL SWEEP OPERATION AGAINST DIFFICULT TARGETS SAIYUT DISCOUNTED STORIES OF FOREIGN TROOP PRESENCE. RTG TROOPS OPERATING IN VERY RUGGED TERRAIN TAKING MANY OF THEIR CASUALTIES FROM MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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